

ble presentation environment of a service broker system, the method comprising the steps of:

providing an interactive presentation having a plurality of object placeholders, each for holding a presentable object or a presentable reference to an object, each placeholder having a resource for selecting the presentable object or reference held therein and a resource for selecting the placeholder;

providing a data store for storing the presentable objects; and

linking the presentable objects to indicate the relationship between the objects, wherein the arrangement of the presentable objects, references, or both within the placeholders corresponds at least in part to the manner in which the presented objects and references are linked. - -

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested. Independent claim 1 and dependent claims 2-37 are amended. New independent claims 38, 39 and 40 are added directed, respectively, to (i) amended claim 1 in combination with the limitations of dependent claims 8, 21-29, 32 and 33, (ii) a service broker system including customizable presentation environment, and (iii) a method for interactively monitoring and controlling a service broker system using a customizable presentation environment. Claims 1-40 are now in this case.

Initially, the Examiner rejected claims 1-7, 10-13 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Buxton et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,469,714. According to the Examiner, with reference to Applicants' claim 1, Buxton et al. teach a customizable

presentation environment comprising an interactive presentation having a plurality of object placeholders, each for holding a presentable object or presentable reference to an object (column 2, lines 61-68; column 3, lines 1-11); each placeholder having a means for selecting the presentable object or reference held therein and a means for selecting the placeholder (column 7, lines 28-55); a data store for storing the presentable objects (column 3, lines 66-68; column 4, lines 1-7; column 8, lines 54-61), it being apparent to the Examiner that the changes that are made by the user are saved in the computer hard drive; and the presentable objects being linked to indicate the relationship between the objects, wherein the arrangement of the presentable objects, references, or both within the placeholders corresponds at least in part to the manner in which the presented objects and references are linked (column 7, lines 28-55).

Regarding Applicants' claim 2, the Examiner takes the position that Buxton et al. describe the customizable environment of claim 1, wherein the interactive presentation is an electronic interface (column 2, lines 44-60).

With respect to claim 3, the Examiner asserts, Buxton et al. teach the customizable environment of claim 2, wherein the interface is selected from a group consisting of visual displays, auditory displays, tactile displays, digital devices or agents, and combinations thereof (column 3, lines 44-60).

Concerning claim 4, the Examiner finds that Buxton et al. disclose the customizable environment of claim 1, wherein the interactive presentation is an output device (column 7, lines 28-55). The Examiner infers to the ability which allows the user to display the text with different font or style.

As for claim 5, the Examiner submits that Buxton et al. teach the customizable

environment of claim 1, wherein the interactive presentation is an input device (column 7, lines 59-68; column 8, lines 1-8). The Examiner infers that certain functions there were available, which can be accessed through the input device, and are disabled when the condition is not met.

Regarding claim 6, Buxton et al. purportedly set forth the customizable environment of claim 1, wherein the interface is automatically adaptable as an input or output device (column 8, lines 23-38).

Buxton et al. also disclose, says the Examiner, the customizable environment of claim 1, wherein the interactive presentation has at least one spatial dimension (column 8, lines 23-28), as set forth in Applicants' claim 7. The Examiner explains that it is inherent that the action bar is displayed in a two dimensions.

With reference to claim 10, the Examiner argues that Buxton et al. teach the customizable environment of claim 1, wherein the presentable objects are digital pictures or icons (FIG. 4, items 324).

As for claim 11, the Examiner takes the position that Buxton et al. disclose the customizable environment of claim 1, wherein the means for selecting the presentable object or reference held therein is a selection box (FIG. 4d, item 328; column 8, lines 9-19).

Concerning claim 12, Buxton et al., the Examiner asserts, teach the customizable environment of claim 1, wherein the means for selecting the placeholder is a selection bar (FIG. 4d, item 324).

With respect to Applicants' claim 13, the Examiner determines that Buxton et al. describe the customizable environment of claim 1, further comprising a database for

storing the links between references or objects (column 8, lines 31-41).

Finally, regarding Applicants' claim 16, the Examiner indicates that Buxton et al. teach the customizable environment of claim 2, wherein the presentable environment is viewable over the global computer network (column 21, lines 61-68; column 3, lines 1-11).

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Next, the Examiner rejected claims 8, 9, 17-19, 21, 22, 30, 31 and 34-37 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious and, therefore, unpatentable over Buxton et al. in view of Gagnon et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,522,342. More particularly, regarding claim 8, the Examiner determined that Buxton et al. teach the customizable environment of claim 1. However, Buxton et al., the Examiner acknowledges, fail to teach wherein the interactive presentation is a video display. The Examiner then looks to Gagnon et al. which, the Examiner believes, teach a video display with customizable feature (column 3, lines 24-57). The Examiner concludes that it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include Gagnon et al.'s teaching of Buxton et al.'s environment in order to provide the user with a video display interface that has a customizable tool bar or remote control.

With respect to Applicants' claim 9, the Examiner takes the position that both Buxton et al. and Gagnon et al. teach the customizable environment according to claim 8. Gagnon et al., the Examiner continues, further disclose wherein the video display is a web page (column 5, lines 13-44).

Buxton et al. is also found by the Examiner to teach the customizable environment of claim 16. The Examiner acknowledges that Buxton et al. fails to teach further

comprising a web server and wherein the display is part of a web page on the web server. He then looks to Gagnon et al. for the teaching of a customizable environment where the display is part of a web page on the web server (column 5, lines 13-44). The Examiner concludes that it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include Gagnon et al.'s teachings with Buxton et al.'s environment in order to allow the users to access information over the web, as allegedly set forth by Applicants' claim 17.

With reference to Applicants' claim 18, the Examiner reiterates his finding that Buxton et al. teach the customizable environment according to claim 1. However, the Examiner continues, Buxton et al. fails to teach the environment further comprising a means for selecting a last position of the interactive presentation. The Examiner looks to Gagnon et al. for the alleged teaching of an environment comprising a means for selecting a last position of the interactive presentation (column 19, lines 9-34). He concludes that it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include Gagnon et al.'s teaching with Buxton et al.'s environment in order to display previously viewed programs or videos.

In connection with Applicants' claim 19, the Examiner finds that Buxton et al. and Gagnon et al. teach the customizable environment according to claim 18. The Examiner also finds that Gagnon et al. discloses wherein the means for selecting the last interactive presentation position is a selection bar (FIG. 14, item 354).

Regarding claim 21, Buxton et al. and Gagnon et al., says the Examiner, both teach the customizable environment of claim 8, and Gagnon et al. further disclose wherein the video display is a web page (column 5, lines 13-44).

As for claim 22, Buxton et al. and Gagnon et al., according to the Examiner, teach

the customizable environment set forth in claim 21. The Examiner then looks to Buxton et al. as purportedly disclosing wherein the presentable objects are digital pictures or icons (FIG. 4, items 324).

With reference to claim 30, the Examiner finds that Buxton et al. and Gagnon et al. set forth the customizable environment of claim 22. Buxton et al. further teaches, the Examiner indicates, wherein the means for selecting the presentable object or reference held therein is a selection box (FIG. 4d, item 328; column 8, lines 9-19).

Turning now to claim 31, the Examiner believes that Buxton et al. and Gagnon et al. teach the customizable environment of claim 22, and that Gagnon et al. further disclose wherein the means for selecting the placeholder is a selection bar (FIG. 14, item 354).

Regarding claim 34, the Examiner indicates that Buxton et al. and Gagnon et al. teach the customizable environment of claim 22, Buxton et al. further teaching the environment wherein the interactive presentation is an output device (column 7, lines 28-55). In addition, the Examiner infers to the ability, which allows the user to display the text with different font or style on monitor.

With respect of claim 35, the Examiner takes that position that Buxton et al. and Gagnon et al. disclose the customizable environment of claim 22. Buxton et al., the Examiner continues, further teach wherein the interactive presentation is an input device (column 7, lines 59-68; column 8, lines 1-8). The Examiner infers that certain functions there were available, which can be accessed through the input device, are disabled when the condition is not met.

Concerning claim 36, Buxton et al. and Gagnon et al., the Examiner again states,

teach the customizable environment of claim 22. Buxton et al. further disclose, the Examiner submits, wherein the interface is automatically adaptable as an input or output device (column 8, lines 23-38), as set forth in Applicants' claim 36.

Last, according to the Examiner, Buxton et al. and Gagnon et al. also describe the customizable environment of claim 22, wherein the interactive presentation has at least one spatial dimension (column 8, lines 23-38), as taught by Applicants' claim 37. It is inherent, says the Examiner, that the action bar is displayed in two dimensions.

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The Examiner additionally rejected claims 14 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious and, therefore, unpatentable over Buxton et al. in view of Pollack et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,578,025. More particularly, the Examiner takes the position that Buxton et al. disclose the customizable environment set forth in Applicants' claim 1, while acknowledging that Buxton et al. fail to teach wherein the links between presentable objects are stored in a doubly-linked list. Pollack et al., according to the Examiner, teach the use of a doubly-linked list to store data (column 10, lines 60-68; column 11, lines 1-8). The Examiner concludes that it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include Pollack et al.'s teachings with Buxton et al.'s environment in order to minimize the search time for the selected object. As for Applicants' claim 15, the Examiner reiterates his finding above that both Buxton et al. and Pollack et al. teach the customizable environment of claim 14. He then determines that Pollack et al. disclose wherein each presentable object in the doubly-linked list has a pointer that refers to each of the presentable objects adjacent thereto (column 10, lines 60-68; column 11, lines 1-8).

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Furthermore, the Examiner rejected claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious and, therefore, unpatentable over Buxton et al. in view of Boreczky et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,366,296. First, the Examiner again states that Buxton et al. teach the customizable environment of claim 1, but acknowledges that they fail to teach wherein the selecting means comprises an aural, oral, visual, electrical, mechanical, optical, or digital selector. The Examiner then looks to Boreczky et al. which, he says, disclose an environment wherein the selecting means comprises an aural, oral, visual, electrical mechanical, optical, or digital selector (FIG. 1, items 1, 2, 3, 4, 5-1, 5-2, 6-1, 6-2, 6-3, 7 and 11). He concludes that it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include Boreczky et al.'s teaching with the environment of Buxton et al. in order to provide the user with the ability to modify the video.

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Thereafter, the Examiner rejected claims 23-28 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious and, therefore, unpatentable over Buxton et al. in view of Gagnon et al. and further in view of Pollack et al. Specifically, according to the Examiner, Buxton et al., Gagnon et al. and/or Pollack et al. teach the customizable environment according to claim 22 and claims 23-27, respectively. Buxton et al. and Gagnon et al., the Examiner acknowledges fail to teach wherein the presentable objects are stored in a doubly-linked list. Regarding Applicants' claim 23, the Examiner looks to Pollack et al. as teaching the use of a doubly-linked list to store data (column 10, lines 60-68; column 11, lines 1-8). He concludes that it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include Pollack et al.'s teachings with the environment of Buxton et al. and Gagnon et al.

in order to minimize search time for the selected object.

With regard to claim 24, Pollack et al., according to the Examiner, also teach wherein each presentable object in the doubly-linked list has a pointer that refers to each of the presentable objects adjacent thereto (column 10, lines 60-68; column 11, lines 1-8).

Concerning Applicants' claim 25, Buxton et al., says the Examiner, further disclose wherein the presentable environment is viewable over the global computer network (column 2, lines 61-68; column 3, lines 1-11).

Referring to Applicants' claim 26, Buxton et al., the Examiner finds, additionally disclose comprising a web server and wherein the display is part of a web page on the web server (column 5, lines 13-44).

Gagnon et al., the Examiner continues, discloses comprising a means for selecting a last position of the interactive presentation (column 19, lines 9-34) set forth in Applicants' claim 27.

As for Applicants' claim 28, Gagnon et al., the Examiner finds, further teach wherein the means for selecting the last interactive presentation position is a selection bar (FIG. 14, item 354).

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Finally, the Examiner rejected claims 29, 32 and 33 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious and, therefore, unpatentable over Buxton et al. in view of Gagnon et al. and further in view of Pollack et al. and Boreczky et al. The Examiner explains that Buxton et al., Gagnon et al. and Pollack et al. teach the customizable environment according to claim 28. He acknowledges, however, that they fail to teach wherein the

selecting means comprises an aural, oral, visual, electrical, mechanical, optical or digital selector. The Examiner then looks to Boreczky et al. as allegedly teaching an environment wherein the selecting means comprises an aural, oral, visual, electrical, mechanical, optical, or digital selector (FIG. 1, items 1, 2, 3, 4, 5-1, 5-2, 5-3, 6-1, 6-2, 6-3, 7 and 11). The Examiner concludes that it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include Boreczky et al.'s teachings in the environment of Buxton et al., Gagnon et al. and Pollack et al. in order to provide the user with the ability to modify the video. As for claims 32 and 33, they are considered by the Examiner to be of the same scope as claim 29.

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During an Interview with Examiners Ke and Kincaid on November 5, 2003, the Examiners and Applicants' counsel discussed possible amendments to claim 1 that would overcome the references cited.

Pursuant to the Interview, Applicants have amended independent claim 1 to more clearly delineate that the "customizable environment" is a - - customizable presentation environment - -. Claim 1 is also amended to clarify that such environment relates to interactive monitoring and control of a service broker system. Further, claim 1 is amended to more clearly delineate that (i) the data interactively presented to a user relates to "safety" related data, including but not limited to security data, from a client/server "safety" system, including but not limited to a client/server security system, over a global computer network, and that (ii) a customizable presentation environment of a service broker system effects interactive monitoring and control of that "safety" data.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that none of the references, taken alone or in any combination, disclose or suggest a “customizable presentation environment of a service broker system for interactive monitoring and control of data from a client/server safety system over a global computer network”, as claimed.

In addition, Applicant has added three (3) new independent claims, namely, claims 38, 39 and 40. Claim 38 combines the limitations of amended claim 1 with those of dependent claims 8, 21-29, 32 and 33. Claim 39 relates to a service broker system including the customizable presentation environment of amended claim 1. As for claim 40, it concerns a method for interactively monitoring and controlling a service broker system using a customizable presentation environment, as also provided in amended claim 1.

Finally, dependent claims 2-22 and 26-37 are amended voluntarily to change “of” and “according to”, respectively, to - - set forth in - - as a matter of desired style. Also, dependent claim 3 is voluntarily amended to better define the interface as one selected from a “group of” rather than a “group consisting of a”, and claims 11, 12, 18-20 and 27-33 are amended to better define the “selecting means” as a - - selecting resource - -, both without limiting effect.

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Applicants respectfully submit that none of the cited references, taken alone or in any combination, disclose or suggest their invention, as claimed.

Based on the foregoing, withdrawal of the Examiner’s rejections under §§ 102(e) and § 103(a) are respectfully requested.

Applicants have made a good faith attempt to place this Application in condition for allowance. Favorable action is requested. If there is any further point requiring attention prior to allowance, the Examiner is asked to contact Applicants' counsel at (212) 768-3800.

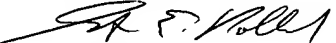
Please charge any additional fees that may be required to our firm Deposit Account No. 50-0518.

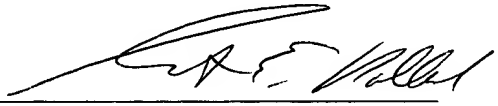
Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December 30, 2003

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